Upgradation of TV/AIR Stations

2082. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposal received from Gujarat for setting up and upgradation of TV Station/AIR Stations during the current financial year location-wise; and

(b) by when it would be cleared and the expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that no such proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat. However, requests from MPs and others, have been received for setting up of a TV studio at Surat and TV transmitter at Kodinar as also upgradation of LPT at Amreli in Gujarat. Requests have also been received for setting up of new FM radio stations at Amreli, Jamnagar and Bhavnagar.

(b) There is no scheme to set up new TV transmitters/studios at the above mentioned places. TV coverage to hitheto uncovered areas in the country, including those in Gujarat, has now been provided through free-to-air DTH service of Doordarshan.

Further, a new FM radio station is proposed to be set up at Jamngar during the Tenth Five Year Plan,subject to the approval of the competent authority and availability of resources. There is no proposal to set up FM radio stations at Amreli and Bhavnager.

FM Radio Policy

2083. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether blueprint is ready to air FM radio policy;

(b) whether with the recommendations from TRAI and Amit Mitra panel, his Ministry has worked out a policy that will ensure that teething problems never crop up again;

(c) whether in the meeting between the Government officials, broadcasters, content providers and consumer groups it has been agreed for autonomous and quasi-judicial regulatory body to receive and dispose of grievances and complaints regarding contents; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be announced and what are its features?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BORADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The formulation of a new policy for the 2nd phase of private FM radio broadcasting is under consideration of the Government.

(c) The workshop on the content issues on TV channels was held by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on 16.2.2005. In the workshop, several stakeholders including owners of TV channels, media heads, MSO, cableoperators' federations, NGOs, educationists, representation of women's groups and consumer organizations, etc. were invited to offer their views on the subject. While contemplating the role of self regulation, the need was also felt in favour of establishment of regulatory authority for oversight of content.

(d) The proposal for setting up an authority to regulate the content is under consideration. No time frame can be indicated for a final decision.

Advertisement Industry

†2084. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an increase in the advertising industry has been assessed during the last three years;

(b) if so, the turn over of the industry during 2001-02 and 2003-04;

(c) the share of electronic and print media in this industry separately;

(d) whether Government have any plan for development of this industry in future and;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.